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Synonymical Notes on the Genus Cerceris—V.1 (Hymenoptera: Sphecidae)

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A study of type material in Europe in 1959 together with additional specimens borrowed from several institutions and collectors or collected by the author has shown the following cases of synonymy.

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Cerceris simplex simplex F. Smith

Cerceris simplex F. Smith, 1856. Catal. Hymen. Brit. Mus. 4: 462, Q. America: Brazil.—Scullen, 1961. Pan-Pacific Ent. 37: 47–48.

Cerceris affumata Schletterer, 1887. Zool. Jahrb. Ztschr. f. System 2: 455. Q. America: Brazil.

A study of types and other available material from North and South America has shown the following described species, in the opinion of the author, should be considered subspecies of *C. simplex* F. Smith. Structurally all species appear to be the same except for an increase in the amount of lighter markings and a browning of the background color. The nominate subspecies is recorded only from Brazil. It is almost entirely black except for small spots back of the eyes and small patches on the propodeum which are yellow.

Cerceris simplex graphica F. Smith

Cerceris graphica F. Smith, 1873. Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist. 12: 410, Q. Mexico.

The holotype female of *C. graphica* F. Smith is in the British Museum (No. 21.1,427). This subspecies is recorded from Ecuador and Peru north through Central America and Mexico with one record from Portal, Cochise Co., Arizona. Its background color ranges from fuscous to fuliginous with yellow markings.

Cerceris hebes Cameron (1890. Biol. Cent.-Amer. 2: 124–125) belongs to this group of subspecies and from its type location would doubtless be a synonym of C. simplex graphica F. Smith. The type of this species was not found at the British Museum by the writer in 1959 when other Cameron types were studied.

Cerceris simplex larvata Taschenberg

Cerceris larvata Taschenberg, 1875. Zietschr. f. d. ges. Naturw. 45: 391. & Brazil (Mendoza)—Brethes, 1913. Mus. Nac. de Buenos Aires 24: 121–122—Scullen, 1962. Pan-Pacific Ent. 38: 58–59.

Cerceris elephantinops Holmberg, 1903. Museo nacional de Buenos Aires Anales 3: 485. 6. Argentina, Territ. Pampa Centralis.

The type male of C. larvata Taschenberg is at the Zoologisches Institut, Martin-Luther-University, Halle (Saale), Germany. The type male of C. elephantinops Holmberg is in the Museo Nacional de Buenos Aires. This subspecies was described from Brazil but it is also taken in Argentina. Its background color is black and the yellow markings more extended than on C. simplex simplex F. Smith. Narrow yellow bands appear on all terga.

Cerceris simplex macrosticta Viereck and Cockerell

Cerceris macrosticta Viereck and Cockerell, 1904. N. Y. Ent. Soc. Jour. 12: 133. A. New Mexico.—Scullen, 1942. Pan-Pacific Ent. 8: 187 (= C. ampla Banks).

Cerceris ampla Banks, 1912. Ent. Soc. Amer. Ann. 5: 16.

3, Q. Fedor, Lee Co., Texas.

The type female of C. macrosticta Viereck and Cockerell is at the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, No. 10381. The type male and allotype female of C. ampla Banks are at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, No. 13769. This is the lightest form of all the subspecies and is the common form of the southwestern states and northern Mexico.

Cerceris atra Scullen

Cerceris nigra Brethes (nec. Ashmead), 1911. Mus. Nacional de Buenos Aires 20: 263. Preoccupied.

The new name C. atra Scullen is here proposed for C. nigra Brethes which is preoccupied by C. nigra Ashmead (Ent. Soc. London Trans. p. 227 (1900)).